

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN CAROLYN SQUIRES**, on January 26, 2007,  
upon adjournment, in Room 335 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Carolyn Squires, Chairman (D)  
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)  
Sen. Vicki Cocchiarella (D)  
Sen. Jeff Essmann (R)  
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)  
Sen. Larry Jent (D)  
Sen. Rick Laible (R)  
Sen. Jesse Laslovich (D)  
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)  
Sen. Jim Shockley (R)  
Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Dave Bohyer, Legislative Branch  
Lois O'Connor, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 235, 1/22/2007; SB 173,  
1/22/2007; SB 136, 1/22/2007; SB  
113, 1/22/2007  
Executive Action: None.

00:07:07

**General Discussion:**

00:08:00 Sen. Carolyn Squires

00:08:39 Sen. Jeff Essmann

**EXHIBIT**(sts18a01)

00:11:40 Dave Bohyer, Research Director, Legislative Services  
Division (LSD)

**EXHIBIT**(sts18a02)

**HEARING ON SB 235**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:12:27 **SEN. STEVEN GALLUS (D), SD 37**, opened the hearing on **SB 235**, Establish SW Montana veterans' home - use 2 cents cigarette tax money.

**EXHIBIT**(sts18a03)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:15:44 Bob Pavlovich

00:18:06 Dan Antonetti, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)

00:18:46 Colonel Jim Jacobsen, Legislative Chairman, American  
Legion of Montana

**EXHIBIT**(sts18a04)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

00:21:45 Joe Foster, Administrator, Veterans Affairs Division

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:22:05 Sen. Essmann to Sen. Gallus

00:24:15 Sen. Squires to Sen. Gallus

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:25:43 Sen. Gallus

**HEARING ON SB 173**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:27:07 SEN. CAROL JUNEAU (D), SD 8, opened the hearing on SB 173, Revise laws governing state-tribal economic development commission.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:28:48 Reno Charrett, Office of the Honorable Governor Brian Schweitzer

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts18a05)

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts18a06)

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts18a07)

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts18a08)

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts18a09)

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts18a10)

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts18a11)

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts18a12)

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts18a13)

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts18a14)

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts18a15)

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts18a16)

00:32:49 Evan Barrett, Office of the Honorable Governor Brian Schweitzer (Governor's Office)

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts18a17)

00:36:29 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy, HD 32, Box Elder

00:37:56 Andy Poole, Deputy Director, Montana Department of Commerce

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:38:34 Sen. Juneau

**HEARING ON SB 136**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:39:29 SEN. JOSEPH (JOE) TROPILA (D), SD 13, opened the hearing on SB 136, Revise meeting frequency for Board of Veteran's Affairs.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:40:29 Bob Pavlovich, Area 5, Veterans Affairs Committee

00:41:05 Jim Jacobsen, Colonel, American Legion of Montana

00:41:56 Dan Antonetti, Veterans of Foreign Wars

00:42:26 Roger Hagan, Montana National Guard Associations

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

00:42:53 Joe Foster, Administrator, Montana Veterans Affairs Division

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:43:17 Sen. Tropila

**Further Testimony on SB 235**

00:44:14 Roger Hagan, Montana National Guard Associations

00:47:25 John DenHerder

00:48:36 Kelly Williams, Senior and Long Term Care Division, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

**EXHIBIT**(sts18a18)

**HEARING ON SB 113**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:50:13 SEN. DAVE LEWIS (R), SD 42, opened the hearing on SB 113, Increase meal reimbursement rates for state employees.

**EXHIBIT**(sts18a19)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:53:56 Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees Association (MPEA)

**EXHIBIT**(sts18a20)

00:56:43 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

00:58:05 Paul Christopherson, Department of Administration

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:58:28 Sen. Joe Balyeat to Mr. Blattie, MACo

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:00:29 Sen. Lewis closed on SB 113.

01:02:05 Karl Lewis, MEA-MFT

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 3:15 P.M.

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SEN. CAROLYN SQUIRES, Chairman

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LOIS O'CONNOR, Secretary

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Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([sts18aad.pdf](#))**